

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017

Agency - Comcare

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ17-001531

Senator Marshall provided in writing.

Question

COMCARE - investigation the Department of Immigration and Border Protection

I understand the Australian Lawyers Alliance (ALA) has requested that Comcare investigate the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) for breaches of offences under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) (WHS Act). Is that the case?

The ALA is suggesting the DIBP appears to have failed to meet its obligations under the WHS Act, including offences that appear to have been committed, yes?

Have you started an investigation? If so, where's that up to? If not, why not?

Answer

Yes, the ALA has requested that Comcare investigate the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) for breaches of offences under the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) (WHS Act).

Yes, the ALA has alleged that DIBP have failed to meet its obligations under the WHS Act.

Comcare is undertaking further enquiries into the allegations ALA has raised. The outcome of these enquiries will determine if a further investigation is warranted.